

local

April KAMU auction helps station, donators

By TIM JASEK
Campus Reporter
If your life-long dream has been to own an Arabian horse or something as majestic — like a lady's Hamilton quartz watch — you might want to tune in on the Second Great KAMU-TV auction to be held April 3-17.

Texas A&M University's KAMU, part of the Public Broadcasting Service, is sponsoring the auction to provide additional funding for the coming year, said Penny Hyden, coordinator of the function.

Friends of KAMU, a volunteer group mainly from the Brazos Valley area, collects the merchandise to be auctioned, she said.

Merchants donating to the auction benefit by having their name mentioned on the air, Hyden said, and their donations are also tax deductible.

The Arabian horse, donated by Blocker Trant, and the watch, are the only contributions to the auction so far, Hyden said, but the auction is still seven weeks away.

Donations to last year's auction included antique beds, dinner with Dr. and Mrs. Jarvis Miller, a flight to Houston with dinner included and a football autographed by the Texas A&M team, she said.

The auction, which will be in Studio A of the on-campus station, will be preceded by a showing of all dona-

tions April 3-6 at a site not selected yet, said Hyden.

KAMU will begin its auction at 8 p.m. April 13 and end at about midnight after five consecutive nights, said Hyden. The event lasted three nights last year, she said, but it will be expanded this year because of the good support by donors in the past.

The auction will be organized so that merchandise will be posted on one of six boards, Hyden said.

Four of the boards will each consist of one of the letters from KAMU so that items can be easily referred to. A fifth "quicky board" will be for smaller items such as feather jewelry. The last "super board" will include items retailing for over \$250, she said.

Debate team takes third; speakers receive awards

The Texas A&M University debate squad won third place sweepstakes honors at the Sam Houston State University debate tournament in Huntsville last weekend.

The team competed against 21 other schools from Texas and Oklahoma.

In the senior division debate, Michael Shelby and James Starr won first place, beating Houston Baptist

in the semifinals and finals. Shelby and Starr were the only undefeated team at the tournament and Shelby was ranked the second place speaker.

Kathy Hauschild and Laine Kobeluch placed third in junior debate.

In individual events, Keith Barber placed first in extemporaneous speaking and advanced to finals in informative speaking.

Joe Shaughnessy made the finals in persuasive speaking and communication analysis.

Aggie semifinalists were James Starr, Joe Shaughnessy and Robin Joyce in extemporaneous speaking; Lisa Shelby in persuasive speaking; Jimmy Jolly in informative speaking; Valencia Smith in prose interpretation; and Valencia Smith and Lydia Johnson in duo-dramatic interpretation.

Inmates' legal fees must be paid by state

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court Monday let stand a ruling that the state of Texas must pay \$39,000 in fees to a lawyer representing inmates who had filed suit to overturn laws against prisoners helping each other on legal matters.

The justices declined to hear an appeal by Texas from a ruling stating that inmates must pay the fees under a 1976 federal statute even though the services were performed before the law took effect.

The case arose in 1968 when some Texas prisoners filed a class action suit contesting the Texas Department of Corrections prohibition of prisoners giving each other legal assistance.

The prisoners lost in federal district court, but the 5th U.S. Circuit

Court of Appeals reversed the decision, holding the state could not enforce such a rule until it provided an adequate legal assistance program for prisoners.

But the state corrections department continued to enforce its prohibition and, in 1972, the prisoners renewed their suit. Federal courts ordered the state to allow any mutual legal aid on any civil legal matter.

William Bennett Turner, the lawyer for the prisoners, then sought legal fees under the Civil Rights Attorney's Fees Awards Act of 1976.

The law took effect in October of that year — two months before the final arguments were made in the case before the 5th Circuit.

A federal district court awarded the attorney \$39,000. A three-judge panel of the 5th Circuit affirmed the

award and sent the case back to the lower court to award a "reasonable fee" for the time taken to pursue the appeal.

Texas Attorney General Mark White appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, arguing the lawyer fees could not be awarded for services rendered before the effective date of the act.

White maintained the 11th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution bars Congress from imposing a retroactive demand on a state's treasury, and said the lawyers' fees could amount to over \$300,000. In response, Turner said the state had paid — without protest — \$181,000 to the Houston law firm of former Gov. John Connally in a prison rights case where the "great bulk of services were rendered prior to the 1976 act."

Judge wants to know why union violated his orders

BEAUMONT — A judge has ordered the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union to court Monday to explain why its members should not be found in contempt for violating his orders in a series of strike-related incidents.

The Gulf Oil claims seven members of the union, on strike since Jan. 8, were engaged in harassment and violence since District Judge Melvin

Combs' Feb. 8 injunction prohibiting picket line violence.

Gulf says a company supervisor was attacked in a motel room; that strikers have photographed the coming and going of vehicles at the Gulf refinery; persons who saw an earlier picket line skirmish have been threatened, and that persons working during the strike have been subjected to obscenities

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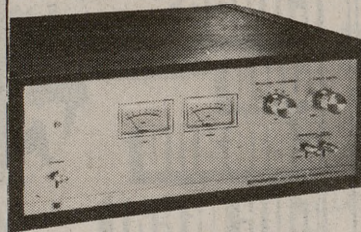
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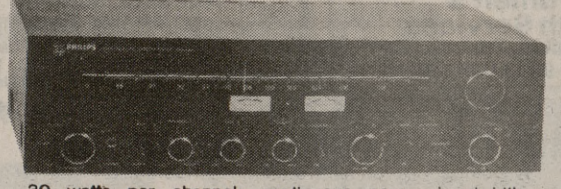
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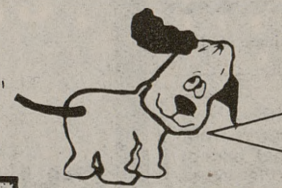
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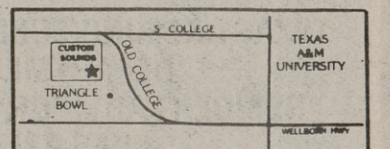
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